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## **Senator Hardiman named to leadership post of National Conference of State Legislatures**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Bill Hardiman, R-Kentwood, has been named Chairman of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Human Services and Welfare Committee. Illinois Senator and NCSL President Steve Rauschenberger announced the appointment.

“I am honored to represent the interests of state legislatures in the continuing debate over the changing state-federal relationship,” Hardiman said about his new appointment.

The Human Services and Welfare Committee is one of 15 standing committees of the NCSL. The committees are responsible for developing policies that guide NCSL's activities on Capitol Hill and within the administration. The policies stress three themes: opposition to unfunded federal mandates, prevention of unnecessary preemption of state laws and protection of state revenue sources.

“Senator Hardiman brings a great deal of knowledge and experience to the table,” said Senator Rauschenberger. “I am pleased that he has accepted the appointment and I look forward to his valuable contributions to state public policy over the next year.”

NCSL has just completed an active year in representing the interests of the states in Washington, including work on transportation funding, education reform, Medicaid reform, homeland security and electronic commerce, among other issues.

The Human Services and Welfare Committee has jurisdiction over NCSL's state and federal work in four major categories: social services, income security, food and nutrition and immigration.

Hardiman served as vice chair of the committee for the 04-05 conference year. This committee also works with states on engaging faith-based organizations and proposals supporting healthy marriages. They will [meet three times](#) a year and allow legislators and staff to benefit from the experiences of other states in shaping public policy, experimenting with new laws and managing the legislative institutions.

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